

Remarks

Objection to Amendments under 35 U.S.C. 132

The Examiner objected to amendments in the April 21, 2004 Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 132 for adding new matter. The amendments included new Figures 4 and 5, brief descriptions of Figures 4 and 5 on page 4 of the specification, other amendments on page 4 of the specification to accommodate the new figures, and detailed descriptions of the new figures on page 5 of the specification. Applicants have cancelled the above amendments.

Per the Examiner's suggestion, Figures 2 and 3 have been amended, as shown in attached replacement Figures 2 and 3, to show a confocal microscope.

Objection to Specification under 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o)

Applicants have amended the specification to provide proper antecedent basis for the structure and language of Claims 34-38.

Objection to Drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a)

Per the Examiner's suggestion, Figures 2 and 3 have been amended as shown in attached replacement Figures 2 and 3. Detectors 5 and detection gaps 6 in Figure 3 have been amended per suggestions made by the Examiner in a June 8, 2004 telephone interview.

Objection to informalities in Claims 32 - 46

Claims 32 - 46 have been amended as requested by the Examiner to remove informalities.

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U.S. Patent Application No. 09/601,130
Amendment and Request for Reconsideration dated: June 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2004

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims and figures are now in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Paul Maliszewski'.

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